

House Resolution 2177

By: Representatives Abdul-Salaam of the 74th and Jordan of the 77th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the City of Riverdale for overwhelming support during Hurricane Katrina; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in September, 2005, the City of
4 Riverdale, Georgia, organized a major outreach effort to provide assistance to those victims
5 that arrived in the City of Riverdale and Clayton County; and

6 WHEREAS, when Representative Roberta Abdul-Salaam issued the urgent *Call to Prayer -*
7 *Call to Action*, Councilman Kenny Ruffin and City Manager Iris Jessie responded
8 immediately and participated in a county-wide conference call; and

9 WHEREAS, recognizing that several victims had visited the Riverdale City Hall seeking
10 assistance, Mrs. Jessie was instrumental in organizing a city-wide relief effort and by the
11 second day of this tragedy a joint press conference was held announcing information about
12 a missing son of one of the victims which was extremely beneficial in locating this young
13 man; and

14 WHEREAS, the City of Riverdale provided a drop-off site for citizens to donate clothing,
15 food, toiletries, and other necessities; and

16 WHEREAS, the city also coordinated community businesses and with the help of community
17 volunteers opened an emergency relief center in the Riverdale Annex Building; and

18 WHEREAS, Councilwoman Michelle Bruce along with her mother Barbara Williams and
19 Marilyn Chambers volunteered and staffed the relief center seven days a week; and

20 WHEREAS, hundreds of evacuees came to the emergency relief center to receive assistance
21 of clothing, food, infant items, medical referrals, and needed services; and

1 WHEREAS, the City of Riverdale was instrumental in providing assistance to surrounding
2 counties including providing a truckload of supplies for the evacuees in Henry County when
3 Senator Emanuel Jones called to say that the Red Cross Shelter in that area had run out of
4 supplies; and

5 WHEREAS, the massive relief effort undertaken by all who participated will forever be
6 remembered along with how everyone pulled together to help one another; and

7 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia and the hundreds of evacuees who received assistance are
8 grateful to the officials of the City of Riverdale, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that
9 their extraordinary service be appropriately recognized.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
11 the members of this body join in commending the citizens and employees of the City of
12 Riverdale for their overwhelming support during Hurricane Katrina and specifically
13 recognizing the extraordinary efforts of Mayor Phaedra Graham, Councilman Kenny Ruffin,
14 Councilwoman Wanda Wallace, Councilman Rick Scoggins, Councilwoman Michelle Bruce,
15 City Clerk Sandra Meyers, Police Chief Thetus Knox, and Fire Chief Billy Hayes.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
17 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the City of Riverdale, Mayor
18 Phaedra Graham, Councilman Kenny Ruffin, Councilwoman Wanda Wallace, Councilman
19 Rick Scoggins, Councilwoman Michelle Bruce, City Clerk Sandra Meyers, Police Chief
20 Thetus Knox, and Fire Chief Billy Hayes.